

STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2009-10**Thompson School District**

MICHAEL W. JOLIN, Superintendent

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Connecticut

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This profile was produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-220(c) using data and narratives provided by the school district, testing services, or the US Census. Profiles and additional education data, including longitudinal data, are available on the internet at www.sde.ct.gov.

COMMUNITY DATA

County: Windham

Town Population in 2000: 8,878

1990-2000 Population Growth: 2.4%

Number of Public Schools: 3

Per Capita Income in 2000: \$21,003

Percent of Adults without a High School Diploma in 2000*: 20.5%

Percent of Adults Who Were Not Fluent in English in 2000*: 0.3%

District Enrollment as % of Estimated. Student Population: 91.6%

*To view the Adult Education Program Profiles online, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on Adult Education, then Reports.

District Reference Group (DRG): F DRG is a classification of districts whose students' families are similar in education, income, occupation, and need, and that have roughly similar enrollment. The Connecticut State Board of Education approved DRG classification for purposes of reporting data other than student performance.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Enrollment on October 1, 2009 1,324
5-Year Enrollment Change -11.1%

DISTRICT GRADE RANGE

Grade Range PK - 12

INDICATORS OF EDUCATIONAL NEED

Need Indicator	Number in District	Percent		
		District	DRG	State
Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals	382	28.9	25.7	32.6
K-12 Students Who Are Not Fluent in English	5	0.4	2.0	5.4
Students Identified as Gifted and/or Talented*	8	0.6	3.1	4.1
PK-12 Students Receiving Special Education Services in District	122	9.2	11.0	11.4
Kindergarten Students who Attended Preschool, Nursery School or Headstart	48	50.5	77.7	80.5
Homeless	0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Juniors and Seniors Working 16 or More Hours Per Week	26	15.9	15.5	13.6

*0.0 % of the identified gifted and/or talented students received services.

SCHOOL DISTRICT DIVERSITY

Student Race/Ethnicity		
Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
American Indian	16	1.2
Asian American	15	1.1
Black	21	1.6
Hispanic	39	2.9
White	1,233	93.1
Total Minority	91	6.9

Percent of Minority Professional Staff: 0.8%

Non-English Home Language:

0.8% of this district's students (excluding prekindergarten students) come from homes where English is not the primary language. The number of non-English home languages is 5.

EFFORTS TO REDUCE RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND ECONOMIC ISOLATION

Below is the description submitted by this school of how it provides educational opportunities for its students to interact with students and teachers from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds.

Connecticut law requires that school districts provide educational opportunities for its students to interact with students and teachers from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. This may occur through magnet school programs, public school choice programs, charter schools, minority staff recruitment, inter- or intra-district programs and projects, distance learning, or other experiences. Below is the description submitted by this school district of how it provides such experiences. As detailed in our individual school profiles, Thompson has undertaken a number of initiatives to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation. At Tourtellotte Memorial High School we continue to employ a school psychologist who facilitates peer mediation and each student receives the booklet Net Cetera which focuses on methods to reduce cyber-bullying. At the Thompson Middle School we are continuing with our character education program embedded in our curriculum along with our character awards. Among other programs, our Troop D School Resource office will be visiting to talk to students about the dangers associated with text messaging and cyber-bullying and we continue to utilize our anonymous hotline to report harassment issues. At the Elementary level, one important program is our Character Education, Violence Prevention (second step) project.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Connecticut Mastery Test, Fourth Generation, % Goal. The Goal level is more demanding than the Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards.

Grade and CMT Subject Area	District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Lower Percent Meeting Goal
Grade 3 Reading	60.8	57.0	39.9
Writing	59.2	58.3	36.8
Mathematics	59.2	62.4	28.2
Grade 4 Reading	64.5	59.9	41.5
Writing	58.2	63.6	23.1
Mathematics	75.0	67.0	52.8
Grade 5 Reading	53.3	61.8	18.2
Writing	68.2	68.2	31.9
Mathematics	59.1	72.4	13.9
Science	63.6	59.4	34.3
Grade 6 Reading	65.0	74.9	16.6
Writing	68.9	65.9	45.1
Mathematics	46.6	70.7	8.6
Grade 7 Reading	80.9	77.4	39.0
Writing	66.7	61.2	45.5
Mathematics	72.7	68.5	41.6
Grade 8 Reading	54.5	73.3	9.6
Writing	46.8	62.6	14.6
Mathematics	52.0	67.3	13.4
Science	50.8	62.8	19.1

These results reflect the performance of students with scoreable tests who were enrolled in the district at the time of testing, regardless of the length of time they were enrolled in the district. Results for fewer than 20 students are not presented.

For more detailed CMT results, go to www.ctreports.com.

To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on "No Child Left Behind."

Connecticut Academic Performance Test, Third Generation, % Meeting State Goal. The CAPT is administered to Grade 10 students. The Goal level is more demanding than the state Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards. The following results reflect the performance of students with scorable tests who were enrolled in the school at the time of testing, regardless of the length of time they were enrolled in the school. Results for fewer than 20 students are not presented.

CAPT Subject Area	District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Lower Percent Meeting Goal
Reading Across the Disciplines	39.8	45.9	32.6
Writing Across the Disciplines	51.0	59.6	24.1
Mathematics	38.6	48.7	26.5
Science	42.7	45.3	36.4

For more detailed CAPT results, go to www.ctreports.com. To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on "No Child Left Behind."

Physical Fitness. The assessment includes tests for flexibility, abdominal strength and endurance, upper-body strength and aerobic endurance.

Physical Fitness: % of Students Reaching Health Standard on All Four Tests	District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Lower Percent Reaching Standard
	28.8	50.7	6.3

SAT® I: Reasoning Test Class of 2009		District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Lower Scores
% of Graduates Tested		50.7	68.5	
Average Score	Mathematics	463	508	17.1
	Critical Reading	479	503	22.5
	Writing	477	506	24.0

SAT® I. The lowest possible score on each SAT® I subtest is 200; the highest possible score is 800.

Graduation and Dropout Rates	District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Less Desirable Rates
Graduation Rate, Class of 2009	84.3	91.3	10.0
2008-09 Annual Dropout Rate for Grade 9 through 12	2.3	3.0	27.9

Activities of Graduates	District	State
% Pursuing Higher Education (Degree and Non-Degree Programs)	72.0	84.5
% Employed (Civilian Employment and in Armed Services)	25.3	10.4

RESOURCES AND EXPENDITURES

DISTRICT STAFF

Full-Time Equivalent Count of School Staff	
General Education	
Teachers and Instructors	92.55
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	11.00
Special Education	
Teachers and Instructors	8.25
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	13.85
Library/Media Specialists and/or Assistants	3.15
Staff Devoted to Adult Education	0.00
Administrators, Coordinators, and Department Chairs	
District Central Office	3.00
School Level	5.65
Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers (e.g., subject area specialists)	0.00
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists	6.00
School Nurses	3.50
Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services and Support	66.40

In the full-time equivalent (FTE) count, staff members working part-time in the school district are counted as a fraction of full-time. For example, a teacher who works half-time in the district contributes 0.50 to the district's staff count.

Teachers and Instructors	District	DRG	State
Average Years of Experience in Education	13.0	14.0	13.8
% with Master's Degree or Above	66.7	76.3	77.8

Average Class Size	District	DRG	State
Grade K	19.0	16.0	18.5
Grade 2	16.6	18.5	19.7
Grade 5	18.3	20.5	21.1
Grade 7	18.2	19.5	20.8
High School	14.4	18.2	19.6

Hours of Instruction Per Year*	Dist	DRG	State
Elementary School	996	1,003	992
Middle School	1,002	1,033	1,018
High School	1,030	1,005	1,006

*State law requires that at least 900 hours of instruction be offered to students in grade 1-12 and full-day kindergarten, and 450 hours to half-day kindergarten students.

Students Per Academic Computer	Dist	DRG	State
Elementary School*	3.3	3.2	3.2
Middle School	2.6	2.2	2.5
High School	1.7	2.1	2.3

*Excludes schools with no grades above kindergarten.

DISTRICT EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES, 2008-09

Expenditures may be supported by local tax revenues, state grants, federal grants, municipal in-kind services, tuition and other sources. DRG and state figures will not be comparable to the district if the school district does not teach both elementary and secondary students.

Expenditures All figures are unaudited.	Total (in 1000s)	Expenditures Per Pupil			
		District	PK-12 Districts	DRG	State
Instructional Staff and Services	\$8,338	\$6,003	\$7,819	\$7,280	\$7,829
Instructional Supplies and Equipment	\$405	\$292	\$274	\$278	\$279
Improvement of Instruction and Educational Media Services	\$219	\$158	\$474	\$290	\$459
Student Support Services	\$1,031	\$742	\$863	\$723	\$859
Administration and Support Services	\$2,411	\$1,736	\$1,405	\$1,415	\$1,426
Plant Operation and Maintenance	\$1,876	\$1,351	\$1,469	\$1,463	\$1,462
Transportation	\$983	\$680	\$701	\$705	\$694
Costs for Students Tuitioned Out	\$1,511	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other	\$254	\$183	\$163	\$182	\$162
Total	\$17,028	\$12,242	\$13,458	\$12,570	\$13,386
Additional Expenditures					
Land, Buildings, and Debt Service	\$1,496	\$1,077	\$1,864	\$1,958	\$1,825

Special Education Expenditures	District Total	Percent of PK-12 Expenditures Used for Special Education		
		District	DRG	State
	\$3,223,446	18.9	19.5	20.7

Revenue Sources, % of Expenditures from Source. Revenue sources do not include state funded Teachers' Retirement Board contributions, vocational-technical school operations, SDE budgeted costs for salaries and leadership activities and other state-funded school districts (e.g., Dept. of Children and Families and Dept. of Corrections).

District Expenditures	Local Revenue	State Revenue	Federal Revenue	Tuition & Other
Including School Construction	46.1	49.9	3.3	0.7
Excluding School Construction	43.5	52.2	3.5	0.8

EQUITABLE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES AMONG DISTRICT SCHOOLS

Below is the description submitted by this district of how it allocates resources to insure equity and address needs.

The Thompson Board of Education has sought to continually ensure that all class sizes are at optimum levels and to provide diverse course offerings. With increasing budget demands, this has been challenging. Pressures on the budget from items such as health insurance continue to make this a difficult task. Health care costs for our 2010-2011 school year will increase by 15%. The budgetary process has each cost center discussed in cooperation with the Boards of Education and Finance. This process makes the community aware of each of the cost centers, and provides a forum to review budget increases and additional programming.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Number of K-12 Students with Disabilities for Whom the District is Financially Responsible	135
Of All K-12 Students for Whom the District is Financially Responsible, the Percent with Disabilities	10.1%

Of All K-12 Students for Whom District is Financially Responsible, Number and Percentage with Disabilities				
Disability	Count	District Percent	DRG Percent	State Percent
Autism	8	0.6	0.9	1.0
Learning Disability	27	2.0	3.6	3.9
Intellectual Disability	3	0.2	0.5	0.5
Emotional Disturbance	18	1.4	1.1	1.0
Speech Impairment	42	3.2	2.3	2.2
Other Health Impairment*	35	2.6	1.9	2.1
Other Disabilities**	2	0.2	0.8	0.9
Total	135	10.1	11.1	11.6

*Includes chronic health problems such as attention deficit disorders and epilepsy

**Includes hearing, visual, and orthopedic impairments, deaf-blindness, multiple disabilities, traumatic brain injury, and developmental delay

Graduation and Dropout Rates of Students with Disabilities for Whom District is Financially Responsible	District	State
% Who Graduated in 2008-09 with a Standard Diploma	100.0	81.0
2008-09 Annual Dropout Rate for Students Aged 14 to 21	3.0	4.1

STATE ASSESSMENTS

Percent of Students with Disabilities Meeting State Goal. The Goal level is more demanding than the Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards. These results are for students attending district schools who participated in the standard assessment with or without accommodations for their disabilities. Results for fewer than 20 students are not presented.

- **Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT), Fourth Generation.** The CMT reading, writing and mathematics tests are administered to students in Grades 3 through 8, and the CMT science test to students in Grades 5 and 8.
- **Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT), Third Generation.** The CAPT is administered to Grade 10 students.

State Assessment		Students with Disabilities		All Students	
		District	State	District	State
CMT	Reading	24.3	31.6	63.0	67.5
	Writing	23.4	19.6	61.0	63.3
	Mathematics	25.0	32.9	60.5	68.1
	Science	11.1	23.7	56.8	61.1
CAPT	Reading Across the Disciplines	N/A	N/A	39.8	45.9
	Writing Across the Disciplines	9.1	16.8	51.0	59.6
	Mathematics	N/A	N/A	38.6	48.7
	Science	N/A	N/A	42.7	45.3

For more detailed CMT or CAPT results, go to www.ctreports.com. To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on “No Child Left Behind.”

Participation in State Assessments of Students with Disabilities Attending District Schools		
CMT	% Without Accommodations	54.7
	% With Accommodations	45.3
CAPT	% Without Accommodations	0.0
	% With Accommodations	100.0
% Assessed Using Skills Checklist		2.8

Accommodations for a student's disability may be made to allow him or her to participate in testing. Students whose disabilities prevent them from taking the test even with accommodations are assessed by means of a list of skills aligned to the same content and grade level standards as the CMT and CAPT.

Federal law requires that students with disabilities be educated with their non-disabled peers as much as is appropriate. Placement in separate educational facilities tends to reduce the chances of students with disabilities interacting with non-disabled peers, and of receiving the same education.

K-12 Students with Disabilities Placed in Educational Settings Other Than This District's Schools		
Placement	Count	Percent
Public Schools in Other Districts	0	0.0
Private Schools or Other Settings	19	14.1

Number and Percentage of K-12 Students with Disabilities for Whom District is Financially Responsible by the Percentage of Time They Spent with Their Non-Disabled Peers

Time Spent with Non-Disabled Peers	Count of Students	Percent of Students		
		District	DRG	State
79.1 to 100 Percent of Time	101	74.8	75.9	73.4
40.1 to 79.0 Percent of Time	17	12.6	14.0	15.3
0.0 to 40.0 Percent of Time	17	12.6	10.1	11.3

SCHOOL DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES

The following narrative was submitted by this district.

Below is a summary, submitted by this school district, of the major trends in student performances and accomplishments that indicate sustained improvement over time. Also areas of need are identified and plans to address these needs are presented. Thompson's 2009 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) scores continue to indicate the need for improvement especially at the middle school level among economically disadvantaged students. However, it is important to note that the district met AYP in every other area. In this regard, we are especially pleased that our Elementary School met its AYP goals in every area and that our High School (Tourtellotte Memorial) was selected by ConCan as one of the top 10 most improving in the State. In an innovative process, the Thompson Board of Education and Association of School Administrators have agreed to continue to explore the concept of Performance Based Compensation and are in the process of productive negotiations. The goal is to improve student performance through increased shared accountability.
